What is claimed is: how 11 LaD

- 1. A cellulose ester film comprising a polymer prepared by polymerizing at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters, vinyl esters having a functional group, acrylic esters, and acrylic esters having a functional group, the polymer having a weight average molecular weight of not more than 5,000.
- 2. The cellulose ester film of claim 1, wherein the polymer contains an alkyl acrylate monomer in an amount of not less than 30 weight % or an alkyl methacrylate monomer in an amount of not less than 30 weight %.
- 3. The cellulose ester film of claim 2, wherein the polymer contains a methyl acrylate monomer in an amount of not less than 30 weight %
- 4. The cellulose ester film of claim 1, wherein the polymer has a water solubilizing group.
- 5. The cellulose ester film of claim 4, wherein the water solubilizing group is a hydroxyl group.
- 6. The cellulose ester film of claim 1 wherein the molecular weight of the functional group of the vinyl esters having a functional group or the acrylic esters having a functional group is from 10 to 150.

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- 7. The cellulose ester film of claim 1, wherein the content of said polymer in the cellulose ester film is 0.5 to 30 weight % based on the cellulose ester film.
- 8. The cellulose ester film of claim 1, wherein the rate of mass change of the cellulose ester film is not more than 2%, the rate of mass change being represented by the following formula:

Rate of mass change (%) = ||y-z||/y) X 100 wherein y is the weight of the cellulose ester film measured at 23 ± 3° C and at 55 ± 3% RH, and z is the weight of the cellulose ester film measured at 23 ± 3° C and at 55 ± 3% RH after the film has been stored at 80 ± 3° C and at 90 ± 3% RH for 48 hours, and then stored at 23 ± 3° C and at 55 ± 3% RH for 24 hours.

- 9. The cellulose ester film of claim 1 wherein the moisture vapor transmittance of the cellulose ester film with a thickness of $40~\mu m$ is not more than 250 g/m²·24 h at $80~\pm~5^{\circ}$ C and at $90~\pm~5^{\circ}$ RH.
- 10. The cellulose ester film of claim 1, wherein the film further contains fine particles.
- 11. The cellulose ester film of claim 1, wherein the thickness of the cellulose ester film is 30 to 150 $\mu m\,.$

- 12. The cellulose ester film of claim 1, wherein the cellulose ester film is a film for use in a liquid crystal display.
- 13. The cellulose ester film of claim 12, wherein the cellulose ester film is a tilm for use in a protective film of a polarizing plate.
- 14. A cellulose ester dope for preparing the cellulose ester film of claim 1 according to a solution casting film forming method.
- 15. A polarizing plate comprising a first protective film, a polarizing film and a second protective film, wherein at least one of the first protective film and the second protective film is the cellulose ester film of claim
- polarizing plate, a second polarizing plate, and a liquid crystal cell provided between the first and second polarizing plates, the second polarizing plate being arranged on the viewer side of the display, wherein the first polarizing plate has a first film, a second film and a first polarizing film between the first and second films so that the second film is provided on the first polarizing film on the liquid crystal cell side, the second polarizing plate has a third film, a fourth film and a second

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polarizing film between the third and fourth films so that the third film is provided on the second polarizing film on the liquid crystal cell side, and at least one of the first, second, third and fourth films is the cellulose ester film of claim 1.

17. A method for preparing a cellulose ester film, the method comprising the steps of a) casting the cellulose ester dope of claim 14 on a metal support to form a cellulose ester web, by peeling the web from the metal support, and c) drying the peeled web in a drying apparatus to obtain a cellulose ester film.